

Look inside

to see how Assemblyman Al Stirpe
is helping CNY families

2019 legislative
update from

Assemblyman
Al Stirpe



A legislative accomplishments update from the office of **Assemblyman Al Stirpe**

Legislative accomplishments

Stirpe has sponsored several key bills that passed both houses this year, including one establishing a program for education and training in small business development for people age 50 or older (A.7206). This legislation awaits action by the governor.

Stirpe also co-sponsored several measures that have already been signed into law, including:

- ✓ Establishing the Child Victims Act to allow victims of childhood sexual abuse to seek justice (Ch. 11 of 2019)
- ✓ Combining the state and federal primary election dates, which makes it easier for members of the military stationed overseas to receive primary ballots (Ch. 5 of 2019)
- ✓ Decoupling teacher evaluations from students' state test scores (Ch. 27 of 2019)
- ✓ Allowing the State Liquor Authority to continue granting temporary permits to certain establishments while they await full review of their license applications (Ch. 190 of 2019)
- ✓ Making it easier for businesses to become employee-owned by extending the advisory panel on employee-owned enterprises (Ch. 372 of 2019)
- ✓ Expanding the operation of entrepreneurship assistance centers (Ch. 294 of 2019)



Assemblyman Al Stirpe

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Providing vital assistance to veterans

To make sure that Central New York veterans get the assistance and support they need, Stirpe supported several measures which passed both the Assembly and Senate that:

- ✓ Enact the Pension Poaching Prevention Act to protect veterans and their family members from unscrupulous financial planners or insurance agents (Ch. 183 of 2019)
- ✓ Expand the Operation Recognition program to give more veterans the opportunity to receive their high school diplomas (Ch. 477 of 2019)
- ✓ Allow the Division of Veterans' Services to conduct a study regarding homeless veterans (Ch. 487 of 2019)
- ✓ Ensure women veterans have a voice by updating the duties of the women veterans coordinator in the NYS Division of Veterans' Services and requiring that the division highlight contributions of women veterans on its website (Ch. 480 of 2019)

Stirpe also fought for funding in this year's budget for the Military Enhanced Recognition Incentive and Tribute (MERIT) Scholarship. Earlier this year, Stirpe also stood behind the decision to expand the MERIT Scholarship to include families of military members who lost their lives serving the military in any capacity, as opposed to only in combat or preparing for combat.



Promoting a greener future

This year, Stirpe fought for measures that protect our state's fragile natural resources and make our communities more sustainable, including the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which Stirpe co-sponsored (Ch. 106 of 2019). The act sets goals to combat climate change, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, investing in renewable energy projects and promoting environmental justice. Additionally, Stirpe supported a ban on most single-use plastic bags as part of this year's state budget.

Stirpe also co-sponsored a bill he has long championed to establish a post-consumer paint collection program to safely dispose of unwanted paint (A.6373). For several years, Stirpe pushed for this legislation, which passed both houses this year and awaits the governor's signature.

Further, Stirpe supported measures that:

- ✓ Prohibit offshore oil and natural gas drilling in New York's coastal waters (Ch. 29 of 2019)
- ✓ Amend the state constitution to include the right to clean air and water and a healthful environment (A.2064)
- ✓ Limit the potential health risks posed by the amount of mercury in mercury-added light bulbs (A.2501)

Ensuring every voice is heard

Stirpe voted for new laws that simplify the voting process. The measures:

- ✓ Allow early voting during a nine-day period before an election (Ch. 6 of 2019)
- ✓ Require boards of elections to automatically transfer voter registration information for New Yorkers who move from one county to another (Ch. 3 of 2019)
- ✓ Permit 16- and 17-year-olds to pre-register to vote (Ch. 2 of 2019)

Stirpe will continue to fight to allow for same-day voter registration (A.777) and authorize no-questions-asked absentee ballots (A.778), both of which passed the Assembly and Senate this year.



Assemblyman Al Stirpe is joined by community members at his annual Canal Clean Sweep event



Assemblyman Al Stirpe is joined by the CNS Marching Band volunteers at his annual Electronics Recycling event